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perfect harmony and peace; and might our descendants, with our brethren in the southern hemisphere and their descendants, unitedly fulfil the great destiny which seemed manifestly to be in store for the Anglo-Saxon race. (Cheers.)

Hon. Robert Lincoln, United States Minister, responded:

As representing his fellow-citizens, he heartily reciprocated the affection with which the Queen was regarded by all her subjects, and Americans, whether they were engineers or not, accepted the courtesies and hospitalities of that day as something far beyond any merely personal compliment. They were accepted as an earnest of the kind feeling which existed between the two countries, and which, it was hoped, might never be broken. (Cheers.) He was glad to be associated with these hospitalities, which were not extended by strangers to strangers, but were *reunions* between neighbors and friends. (Cheers.) They had been made neighbors and friends by the application of the skill and learning developed in the various branches of the profession of hosts and guests alike. These developments were every year making the world more and more one vast community. Celerity of movement, directed by electric wires and cables, facilitated the universal distribution of the products of all nations, and tied them together in the common interest of peace over all the world for all time. Engineers were doing more than diplomatists to cement the common brotherhood of man.

### THE FRANCO-GERMAN DISPUTE.

HODGSON PRATT.

Germany considers that the historic relations existing between her and France, culminating in the French demand of 1870, made it necessary for the strategic security of Germany that the latter should occupy Alsace and Lorraine in permanence; in the second place Germany avers that if, at the end of a war like the last, a treaty is signed by the two contending parties, the first principles of good faith demand that the defeated party shall accept the conditions of the treaty, not in form only, but in spirit, with a full intention of abiding by the result.

On the other hand, French people consider, I suppose, that every such treaty is liable to revision, either by consent or by a fresh war which shall cancel it. Further, they advance this argument, that the occupation of these two provinces is a standing menace to the peace and security of France; while the first law in the policy of a nation is that of self-preservation, and, also, that according to principles of universal right now recognized in this age, no people can be transferred from one sovereignty to another against its will.

Here is a brief statement of some rival claims which endanger the peace of all Europe, and tend rapidly towards the bankruptcy of the States.

It appears to me that the first duty of the Peace Societies of the world is to consider how this abiding danger can be dealt with by a joint action of the neutral States. By the neutral States I mean those outside France and Germany. I am utterly opposed to all alliance for or against either of these two States. The duty of every other State is to do its share as arbitrator in this gigantic and disastrous quarrel. Any government which departs from its neutrality in joining in an alliance with either France or Germany does a wrong, first to its own people, and secondly to Europe, by enlarging the area of the quarrel,

and, therefore, of the future war. Unless France and Germany will of themselves come to an understanding, it is the most sacred duty of all the other States to form themselves into a league of mediators in this matter. Let each of those States select its best jurists and statesmen to form a congress for the judicial consideration of this deadly conflict. Let such congress endeavor to arrive at a clear exposition of the facts and of the possible solution of the dispute, based upon justice, not only towards France and Germany, but towards the innocent and suffering populations of all the rest of Europe.

Suppose there were to arise in any community a quarrel between two families or individuals, so terrible and lasting in its bloody and destructive effects that the interest of the whole community itself was concerned in putting an end to that strife. Would they not have a moral right to do so, even if no precise legal enactment or code gave them the authority of interference? The safety of the whole community placed in peril by certain of its members gives the highest juridical right to the community over those individuals. Is not this a fair illustration of the attitude of the whole of Europe towards those two members of the European community called France and Germany?—*Concord*.

### INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND ARBITRATIONS.

A public meeting will be held in the COLUMBUS AVENUE (UNIVERSALIST) CHURCH, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, AT 7.30 P. M.

HON. ROBERT TREAT PAINE will preside and make the opening address.

The delegates of the American Peace Society to the recent World's Peace Congress at Paris will be present and give some account of that very significant meeting. They are REV. R. B. HOWARD, REV. A. A. MINER, D. D., and MR. FRANCIS B. GILMAN. The Commissioners to the Pan-American Conference are announced to be in Boston, and will be invited to attend. *The peaceful relations of the three Americas; the coming Maritime Congress at Washington; the World's Peace Congress of 1892*—the first to be held in the Western Hemisphere; *the attitude and duty of the United States towards the peace of the world*; such are the vital topics to be discussed. The public are cordially invited. Per order of the Executive Committee of the American Peace Society.

EDWARD S. TOBEY, *Chairman*.

The *Universal Republic*, commenting on the call for the last annual meeting of the American Peace Society says:

"A more auspicious time for the work there has never been. Now, for the first time in the history of the race, there is something like general or popular concert of thought in favor of Disarmament and Peaceful Arbitration. It is no longer the seemingly hopeless struggle of a few lovers of their fellow-men, here and there, but the Peoples are at last being touched—the masses are at last awakening to the fact that the bereavements, heart-aches, destructions and burdens imposed upon them by and through wicked wars are wholly unnecessary, and the popular demand for the gradual reduction and final abolishment of war taxes is being heard around Thrones and Senates. The Era of Universal Peace will come in with the twentieth century."